

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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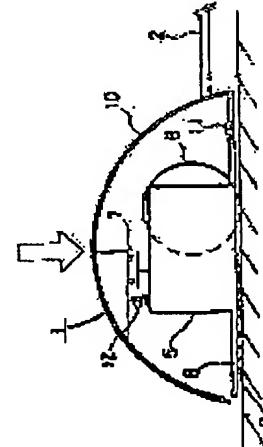
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(54) INPUT DEVICE**(57) Abstract:**

PURPOSE: To reduce the fatigue and to improve the operability by providing a switch, which permits the output from a ball holding and rotation detecting mechanism to a data processing device between the inside of a main body and this mechanism.

CONSTITUTION: A grounding part is attached to one side part of the lower face of a base 8 of a mouse type input device 1, and a ball holding and rotation detecting mechanism 5 is placed nearly on the center of the base 8, and a ball 6 which projects from the base 8 and is rotated is freely rotatably held by the mechanism 5. A main body 10 is pivotally supported to the other end of the base by a hinge 11 so that the main body can be freely moved in the vertical direction, and a switch 7 which is conducted in accordance with the depression of the main body 10 is installed between the upper part inside the main body 10 and the upper part of the mechanism 5, and a spring 12 to elastic ally energize the main body 10 upward is perpendicularly stretched. When the main body 10 is covered with the whole of a palm and is depressed in the direction of an arrow, the main body 10 is rocked downward with the hinge 11 as the center while compressing the spring 12 to make the switch 7 in conductive state, and pointing information is obtained by this conducting operation.

**LEGAL STATUS**

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